

Message Text

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PAGE 01 IZMIR 00282 221502Z

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 USIA-15 /036 W

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FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1923

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, TU

SUBJECT: OPENING OF 46TH IZMIR INTERNATIONAL FAIR

1. 1977 IZMIR INTERNATIONAL FAIR OPENED ON AUGUST 20 AND WILL RUN FOR ITS TRADITIONAL PERIOD THROUGH SEPT. 20. FOREIGN PARTICIPATION REPORTEDLY INCREASED TO 34 (COMPARED WITH 29 IN 1976). AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, ALL EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES EXCEPT EAST GERMANY AND MOST MAJOR WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES EXCEPT FRANCE WERE REPRESENTED. IMPORTATION OF GOODS FOR THE FAIR DEPENDS ON SPECIAL QUOTAS GRANTED BY MINISTRY OF COMMERCE. 1977 QUOTAS WERE 20 MILLION DOLLAR NORMAL QUOTA AND 5 MILLION DOLLAR QUOTA FOR NEW TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS (TOTAL

PAGE 2 RUFLAEA9657 UNCLAS

QUOTA UP 5 MILLION DOLLARS FROM 1976 FAIR).

2. OPENING CERMONY HIGHLIGHTED BY SPEECHES OF IZMIR MAYOR IHSAN ALYANAK AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AGAH OKTAY GUNER. MAYOR STRESSED COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE OF FAIR AND MADE A PITCH FOR INCREASED QUOTAS. HE NOTED THAT FAIR GROUNDS ARE ALSO BEING USED FOR FOUR SPECIALTY FAIRS (TOURISM, AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY AND MEDICINES, FOOD, AND CLOTHING) DURING 1977, AND HE HOPED THESE WOULD ALSO DEVELOP INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION. MINISTER GUNER BRIEFLY DESCRIBING TURKISH ECONOMIC SITUATION
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PAGE 02 IZMIR 00282 221502Z

SAID THAT 4 BILLION TURKISH LIRA IMPORT DEFICIT COULD NOT CONTINUE, BUT OFFERED NO SOLUTIONS. HE ALSO CALLED FOR UNITY AMONG ALL TURKS. SOME NATIONAL ACTION PARTY SUPPORTERS OF MINISTER IN CROWD OFFERED DESULTORY CHANTS OF SUPPORT. SECURITY WAS EXCEEDINGLY TIGHT.

3. FAIR BROCHURES AND THE MINIST
ER AND MAY OR IN THEIR

OPENING SPEECHES POINTED OUT PARTICIPATION OF THE PALESTINE
LIBERATION ORGANIZATION. (LAST YEAR PLO DID NOT PARTICIPATE BUT
IN 1975 IT PASSED OUR LEAFLETS FROM THE LIBYAN PAVILLION.)
WHEN CONOFF ASKED FAIR INFORMATION DESK WHERE PLO PAVILLION

PAGE 3 RUFLAEA9657 UNCLAS

WAS HE WAS TOLD THAT IS HAD NOT OPENED YET. WHEN CONOFF
VISITED PLANNED PLO EXV
IT SITE THERE WAS NO ONGOING
CONSTRUCTION WHICH WOULD INDICATE AN EXHIBIT BEING SET UP, AND
ONLY THING IN VICINITY WAS AN UNUSED STAND WHICH AUSTRIA HAD
USED DURING PREVIOUS YEAR.

4. TURKISH FEDERATED STATE OF CYPRUS REPREUTNTED, AS IT WAS
LAST YEAR.

5. FURTHER REPORTING ON FAIR WILL FOLLOW.

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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